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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

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Identical letters dated 5 February 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

The early morning hours of Thursday, 5 February 2015, marked the start of yet another violent, bloody day for Damascus. Scores of missiles and mortar shells were fired indiscriminately at the city just as children and students were setting out for their schools and universities, and employees for their places of work. On that day, armed terrorist groups fired more than 115 shells at Damascus, 6 missiles at the city Ladhiqiyah and 9 missiles at the city of Aleppo. Those shells and missiles, which were of various calibres, struck the homes of peaceful civilians and their children's schools and universities, as well as Government facilities, diplomatic missions and the headquarters of international organizations. Preliminary figures indicate that 26 persons were killed in the attack and another 48 injured, including children, women and elderly persons (the names of those killed and injured can be found in the annex to this letter). The attack also caused substantial material damage, the extent of which is currently being assessed.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic recalls that, on 3 February 2015, the terrorist Zahran Allush, who heads the terrorist group known as Army of Islam, which is armed and funded by Saudi Arabia, in particular, with the support of a number of Western States, declared via social media networks that all of Damascus is a military zone and a theatre of operations. He went on to demand that, from Wednesday morning until further notice, all civilians, members of diplomatic missions, schoolchildren and university students should not go near any Government facilities or checkpoints, pass by Government vehicles or move about the city's streets during working hours.

The bombardment of Damascus at 7.30 a.m., the peak hour of daily civilian activity, demonstrates the savagery and criminality of those groups, which certain regional and international Powers are still attempting to protect. They are also seeking to prevent those groups' supporters from being held accountable and to ensure that those groups are not added to the list of terrorist entities maintained by

the Security Council, under the pretext that they are "moderate, armed opposition groups". Anyone who strives to counter terrorism has the right to question how logical it is to continue designating them as "moderate opposition groups" in view of the crimes against humanity they have committed and the barrage of missiles they fired indiscriminately at peaceful Damascus that struck women and elderly persons, even in their homes. Some of the missiles fell a few metres away from the premises of the Indonesian Embassy, while others struck the College of Education and the College of Economics of Damascus University, the Andalus private school and children and innocent civilians in the bedrooms of their homes.

These latest acts of terrorism are the continuation of a series of similar explosions and acts of terrorism that have been carried out in Aleppo and Ladhiqiyah governorates by such armed terrorist groups as Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, the Nusrah Front, the Army of Islam, the Hazm Movement and the Levant Front, as well as other terrorist organizations that are affiliated with Al-Qaida and in the pay of regimes from the region and beyond, in particular those of Israel, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Turkey. Those acts of terrorism are also in line with a series of savage crimes that were recently committed, including the slaughter of Japanese nationals Kenji Goto and Haruna Yukawa, and the burning alive of Jordanian pilot Mu'adh al-Kasasbah. Syria has repeatedly warned of the threat that those armed terrorist groups pose to international and regional security and stability. It has also warned against continued State support of terrorism, the grave consequences of which will not be confined to Syria. Its raging fire will spread even to those States that support, fund and arm terrorists. The recent crimes that occurred in France and elsewhere confirm the soundness of the position and vision of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, and the need for the States of the world to cooperate and coordinate with it in order to counter terrorism.

In view of the systematic and savage crimes committed by armed terrorist groups, some of which we recounted earlier, and their expanding reach, the Security Council and the Secretary-General must shoulder their responsibilities by condemning those acts of terrorism and coordinating and cooperating with the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in its war against terrorism. They must also put pressure on those States that sponsor terrorism, some of which we mentioned earlier, to desist immediately from supporting, funding and training those armed terrorist groups that have become known for their savagery, barbarism and blind extremism, and to put pressure on those States also to close the camps in which the members of those terrorist gangs are trained. At the same time, measures must be taken to prevent and bring an end to the flow of foreign terrorist fighters into Syria, in accordance with United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 2178 (2014). The Security Council must also add the Army of Islam, the Islamic Front and other terrorist organizations to the list of terrorist entities.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic affirms that such acts of terrorism will not lessen the determination of the Syrian people, Government and army to fight terrorism and terrorist groups. Nor will the Syrian people, Government and army allow such acts to frighten and terrorize them and bring life to a standstill. For four years, they have held out in the face of an intense campaign of terrorism aimed at undermining the values, principles, tolerance and the very existence of this proud people.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Haydar **Ali Ahmad**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic
to the United Nations

Annex to the identical letters dated 5 February 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Governorate	*No. of shells and missiles*	*Names of persons killed*	*Names of persons injured*
Damascus	115 shells	1. Ghassan al-Tabba'	1. Haytham Hamud
		2. Abdulrahim Ibrahim	2. Salih 'Awwad
		3. Muhammad Ghanim al-Samman	3. Talal 'Awwad
		4. Milhim Munawwar	4. Sulayman Khunayfis
		5. Wa'il Hayal	5. Asma' al-Kharrat
		6. Khatim 'Isa	6. Ghazal Jubul
			7. Muhammad al-Qadi
			8. 'Imad al-'Ubayd
			9. Muhammad Fayyad
			10. Ghassan al-Talh
			11. Ahmad Abdulqadir
			12. 'Imad Tahhan
			13. Dharifah Mallak
			14. Salih Salih
			15. Muhammad Khayyat
			16. Zuhayr Hinaydi
			17. Husayn Qalushah
			18. Wai'l Fayyad
			19. Khaldun al-'Uqlah
			20. Mahir Sa'd al-Din
			21. Nabil 'Ammar
			22. Ayman al-Banna
			23. Khalid Jamil
Ladhiqiyah	6 missiles	–	1. Haytham Nuri Fadil
			2. Jawlanah Ali

Governorate	*No. of shells and missiles*	*Names of persons killed*	*Names of persons injured*
			3. Muhammad Ali al-Saghir
			4. Muhammad Ma'ruf
Aleppo	9 missiles	1. Musa'id Nashat Abu Sa'b	1. Conscript Muhammad Barudi
		2. Muhannad al-'Abud	2. Conscript Muhammad al-Hajjar
		3. Ahmad Salmani	3. Kawthar Sulayman
		4. Jamil Mulayhis	4. Nur al-Musa
		5. Abdullatif Rayhawi	5. 'Amr al-'Umari
		6. Abdulhadi Qal'ah	6. Aryan Muhammad
		7. Abdulhay al-Saqqa	7. Nazili 'Uthman
		8. Ayman al-Saqqa	8. Lava Fawzi
		9. Yahya Katu'	9. Nur al-Musa
		10. Salim Rayhawi	10. Jamilah al-Bahij
		11. Ahmad Hamshu	11. Wala' Fakhur
		12. Muhammad al-Dibsh	12. Abdullah Sarwaji
		13. Muhammad Jum'ah	13. Sabah Sarwaji
		14. Muhammad al-Kadhim	14. Muhammad Ways
		15. Sa'id Mu'adh	15. Ra'id Zu'aytar
		16. 'Amir al-Muhammad	16. Conscript Ahmad Manafikhi
		17. Muhammad Daqqaq	17. Mustafa Hajj Muhammad
		18. Jasim Ibrahim	18. Akram al-Mahmud
		19. Firas Yasin	19. Wa'il Da'bul
		20. Muhammad 'Izzu	20. Kawthar Sulayman
			21. Muhammad Ghayth